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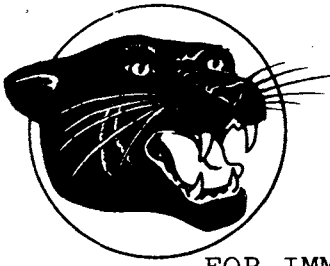
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Panther Sports News

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LS - AS
- Baseball

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHARLESTON, IL (April 7, 1986)--Eastern Illinois University's baseball Panthers face their biggest challenges of the season this week as they take on Illinois on Tuesday (April 8) before hosting nationally ranked Indiana State on Wednesday (April 9) with a 1:00 p.m. double-header and two-time Association of Mid-Continent Universities post-season tournament champion Southwest Missouri State on Saturday and Sunday (April 12-13) with a 1:00 p.m. double-header both days.

The Panthers, 16-10, will travel to Champaign for a 3:00 p.m. single game against Illinois, 17-7-2. Eastern Illinois head coach Tom McDevitt, who has a career record of 228-130-1 (63.6 percent) in his ninth season, will send senior right-hander BILL JOSE (Salem-Mineral Area CC) against the Illini. Jose, 1-3 with a 6.20 earned run average, will hope to repeat his outing one year ago (April 9, 1985) against Illinois.

Last season, Jose scattered nine hits in a complete-game 8-2 victory against the Illini at Champaign. Jose struck out four and walked two in nine innings and was aided by an EIU defense which turned four double plays as Eastern defeated Illinois twice in three meetings.

The Panthers are coming off a four-game series split against Purdue, which, like Illinois, is a Big Ten Conference member. In that series, Eastern Illinois scored 27 runs and pounded out 43 hits while raising its overall team batting average to an impressive .308 for 26 games.

When asked which games this week are most crucial to the Panthers' hopes for a bid to the NCAA post-season tournament, McDevitt replied: "All of them; every single one of them. I don't think any of them are going to be very easy. Southwest Missouri, I think, is the toughest team in our conference. I'm sure they are. I'd have to say this is our biggest week ahead if you're looking at it a week at a clip."

Eastern is paced offensively by senior catcher/third baseman TIM TORRICELLI (Springfield), who leads the team in hitting at .365, runs batted in with 24 and walks with 16. Torricelli is tied for top honors among the Panthers with a 1.000 fielding percentage, with no errors in 130 chances, and in home runs with three, including two against Purdue last weekend.

"Torricelli is hitting the ball well," said McDevitt. "If he gets his pitch, he can drive the ball. He does a good job."

The Panthers have also received plenty of offensive punch from senior outfielder KEVIN SMITH (Peoria-Richwoods), freshman third baseman STAN ROYER (Charleston), senior outfielder/designated hitter BERNIE HOLLAND (Olympia Fields-Thornwood) and junior second baseman RICK STERIOTI (Joliet-Catholic).

Smith is batting .361 with 16 runs batted in while leading the team with 10 doubles and 27 runs scored. Royer, a 10th-round draft choice last year by the Atlanta Braves, has driven in 16 runs to go with a .326 average. Holland is batting .318 with 20 runs batted in and is tied with Torricelli with three homers.

Sterioti became the fifth Panther starter to go over .300 when he had six hits in 12 at-bats against Purdue last weekend. The slick-fielding infielder upped his average to .313 and handled 16 chances flawlessly in four games.

Junior right-hander DAVE GOODHUE (Fithian-Armstrong) continues to be the ace of the Eastern staff with an earned run average of 1.47 for 43 innings. Goodhue, who ranked 11th in the nation a year ago with a 1.89 ERA, has allowed just seven earned runs. Goodhue, a deceiving 4-2, has 35 strikeouts and just eight bases on balls.

Senior right-hander MIKE STEINKAMP (Lincoln) has a 2.60 ERA and leads the Panthers with nine appearances, including seven in relief. Steinkamp, 3-2 with one save, has allowed just 10 earned runs in 34 2/3 innings while striking out 19 and walking 12.

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 1986 BASEBALL STATISTICS (16-10)

BATTING/FIELDING	<u>AVE</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>SB</u>	<u>SAC</u>	<u>HP</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>PO</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>FDG</u>
Tim Torricelli, C/3B	.365	26	85	22	31	6	2	3	24	4	4	1	16	7	115	15	0	1.000
Kevin Smith, OF	.361	26	97	27	35	10	3	2	16	5	1	1	12	12	50	1	3	.944
Stan Royer, 3B	.326	26	89	16	29	7	1	1	16	0	2	1	11	6	16	35	13	.797
Bernie Holland, OF/DH	.318	26	88	18	28	5	0	3	20	3	1	1	15	19	23	1	2	.923
Rick Sterioti, 2B/SS	.313	24	80	13	25	6	2	0	15	4	4	1	5	10	40	71	9	.925
Alswinn Kieboom, C/DH	.300	11	20	3	6	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	5	22	0	0	1.000
Kendall Snyder, 1B	.294	26	85	14	25	3	0	2	14	0	8	0	5	6	215	7	1	.996
Terry Keigher, OF/DH	.286	12	28	4	8	3	0	0	2	1	1	0	4	2	3	0	2	.600
Dave Snider, INF/DH	.271	21	59	14	16	4	0	0	10	3	5	2	10	7	9	15	1	.960
Terry McDevitt, SS	.247	23	81	19	20	2	0	0	7	2	2	1	12	11	30	63	12	.886
Mike Rooney, OF	.246	24	69	14	17	2	1	2	12	3	1	1	10	9	35	3	2	.950
Others	.400	26	5	2	2	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	17	33	1	.980
EIU TOTALS	.308	26	786	166	242	49	9	13	142	27	29	9	101	94	575	244	46	.947
OPP TOTALS	.285	26	768	125	219	41	11	16	106	29	13	6	76	131	577	252	62	.930

PITCHING	<u>ERA</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>GS</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>SHO</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1P</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>HP</u>
Brian Corn, RHP	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Dave Goodhue, RHP	1.47	7	5	2	0	4	2	0	43	35	12	7	8	35	1
Mike Steinkamp, RHP	2.60	9	2	1	0	3	2	1	34 2/3	37	20	10	12	19	2
Jim Wilkins, RHP	5.46	5	4	1	0	2	0	0	28	40	19	17	5	16	1
Ron Ladin, LHP	5.78	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 2/3	6	7	3	2	1	0
Paul Skorupa, RHP	6.00	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	6	5	4	4	4	8	0
Bill Jose, RHP	6.20	8	5	1	0	1	3	1	24 2/3	34	23	17	14	17	1
Eric Hillman, LHP	6.33	7	5	1	0	3	1	0	27	28	21	19	15	23	1
Sam Light, RHP	6.52	6	2	1	0	2	1	1	19 1/3	26	14	14	12	11	0
Chuck Reno, RHP	8.31	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	4 1/3	8	5	4	1	1	0
EIU TOTALS	4.46	26	26	8	0	16	10	3	191 2/3	219	125	95	76	131	6
OPP TOTALS	6.36	26	26	5	0	10	16	1	192 1/3	242	166	136	101	94	9

SEASON SUMMARY

NCAA I: 11-6
 NCAA II: 4-4
 NAIA: 1-0
 At Home: 4-2
 On Road: 8-7
 Neutral: 4-1

GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

<u>EIU</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>PITCHER(S)</u>
W 10 5	Murray State (A) I	Dave Goodhue (1-0), Jim Wilkins
L 2 5	Murray State (A) I	Bill Jose (0-1), Mike Steinkamp
L 5 6	Murray State (A) I	Eric Hillman, Bill Jose (0-2)
W 10 2	West Florida (A) NAIA	Dave Goodhue (2-0), Chuck Reno, Ron Ladin
W 14 10	Bradley (N) I	Bill Jose, Mike Steinkamp (1-0)
W 5 3	Bradley (N) I	Eric Hillman (1-0), Bill Jose (S 1)
W 7 3	Tennessee Tech (N) I	Sam Light (1-0)
W 8 1	Bradley (N) I	Jim Wilkins (1-0)
L 4 10	Tennessee Tech (N) I	Chuck Reno (0-1), Ron Ladin
L 1 2	Troy State (A) II	Dave Goodhue (2-1)
W 2 1	Troy State (A) II	Eric Hillman (2-0)
W 9 4	Troy State (A) II	Bill Jose (1-2)
W 8 5	Troy State (A) II	Mike Steinkamp (2-0), Sam Light (S 1)
L 8 9	Alabama-Birmingham (A) I	Jim Wilkins, Sam Light, Dave Goodhue (2-2)
W 12 7	Austin Peay State (A) I	Eric Hillman, Sam Light (2-0)
W 9 1	Austin Peay State (A) I	Paul Skorupa (1-0)
L 1 3	Southern Indiana (A) II	Bill Jose (1-3), Dave Goodhue
W 5 1	Southern Indiana (A) II	Mike Steinkamp (3-0)
L 4 5	Southern Ill.-Edwardsville (A) II	Bill Jose, Mike Steinkamp (3-1)
L 3 6	Southern Ill.-Edwardsville (A) II	Sam Light (2-1), Bill Jose
W 2 1	Bradley (H) I	Dave Goodhue (3-2)
W 10 3	Bradley (H) I	Jim Wilkins (2-0), Brian Corn, Mike Steinkamp
W 6 4	Purdue (H) I	Dave Goodhue (4-2), Mike Steinkamp (S1)
L 4 11	Purdue (H) I	Eric Hillman (2-1), Sam Light, Mike Steinkamp
W 7 6	Purdue (H) I	Jim Wilkins, Eric Hillman (3-1)
L 10 11	Purdue (H) I	Paul Skorupa, Eric Hillman, Mike Steinkamp (3-2)